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HEALTH ADVISORY - Help STOP Dengue Fever

The following information from the State of Hawaii, Department of Health, Maui District Health Office is being retransmitted.

Help STOP Dengue Fever

The Hawaii State Department of Health has recently confirmed the presence of Dengue fever in the East Maui area. Dengue fever is caused by a virus that is transmitted by mosquitoes which bite during the daytime. Symptoms of Dengue

typically appear 5-7 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito and often include high fever, rash on the arms and legs, body aches, and headaches. Dengue is not transmitted from person to person.

Mosquito control efforts are currently underway in the infected areas of East Maui. Your help is needed to control mosquito breeding and STOP the spread of Dengue.

The department is recommending the following measures:

- Cover or discard items that collect rainwater or are used to store water (plastic containers, 55-gallon drums, buckets, used automobile tires, flower pots).
- Empty and clean pet watering containers at least once a week.
- Empty and scour vases with fresh flowers at least once a week.
- Check all screen doors and windows. Repair any tears.
- Wear long sleeved shirts and pants.
- Apply effective repellants (containing 20-30% DEET) on exposed skin and clothing.
- Make sure your water catchment tank is "mosquito proof".
- To control breeding areas; add 4-6 oz. of liquid dishwashing detergent to one gallon of water and spray on breeding areas and surface water. Repeat this process every 2-3 days.
- If you become ill and have symptoms as described above, contact your health care provider. Be sure to protect yourself from mosquitoes while sick and 10 days afterwards to prevent spreading the disease.

Persistent, unrelenting, mosquito control efforts are the only way to STOP the spread of Dengue. For more information or to report a suspect case, call 984- 8200.

FOR INFORMATION ON DENGUE FEVER, THE PUBLIC CAN LOG ON TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WEBSITE AT

<http://www.state.hi.us/doh/dengue>